



Division of Public Health Services

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Suspension of Requirement for Hib Vaccine Booster is Extended as of August 1, 2008

January 3, 2008-December 31, 2008

Due to a nationwide shortage of Hib (*haemophilus influenzae type B*) vaccine, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) is extending a temporary suspension of the requirement for children in child care settings to receive a Hib vaccine booster dose after 12 months of age. Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-702(E) authorizes ADHS to suspend compliance with immunization requirements in the event of a vaccine shortage.

1. **What is a Hib vaccine booster?**
 - A Hib vaccine booster is the Hib vaccine dose usually given at 12-15 months of age to boost the immunity of a child who received a primary series of 2-3 Hib vaccine doses during the first year of life.
2. **Why is the Hib vaccine booster requirement being suspended?**
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that supplies of Hib vaccine be used for the primary series of 2-3 Hib vaccine doses given during the first year of life.
3. **How long will the Hib vaccine booster requirement be suspended?**
 - Children attending Arizona child care, preschool and Head Start settings will not be required to have a Hib vaccine booster dose until January 1, 2009. Children who reach age 5 before January 1st will not be required to receive a Hib vaccine booster.
 - If Hib vaccine shortages make it necessary to extend the suspension of the Hib vaccine booster requirement beyond December 31, 2008 an announcement will be posted on the Arizona Immunization Program Office website at <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/immun>.
4. **Are children under 12 months of age still required to receive Hib vaccine in order to attend child care?**
 - **Yes.** Hib #1 is required at 2 months; Hib #2 is required at 4 months; Hib #3 is required at 6 months unless PedvaxHIB® or COMVAX® Hib vaccine was given for Hib #1 and Hib #2.
5. **Are children 12 months and older who have never received Hib #1 still required to receive Hib #1 in order to attend child care?**
 - **Yes.** A child who is 12-59 months of age must receive Hib #1 in order to attend child care because the child never received the primary Hib vaccine series.
6. **Are children 12 months and older who have never received Hib #2 still required to receive Hib #2 in order to attend child care?**
 - **Yes.** Hib #2 is required to complete the primary Hib vaccine series 2 months after Hib #1 if the first dose of Hib vaccine was given when the child was less than 15 months of age. Hib #2 is not required for child care attendance if the first dose of Hib vaccine was given when the child was 15 months of age or older.
7. **Who can I call with questions about Hib vaccine and Hib vaccine requirements?**
 - Child care centers may contact the ADHS Immunization Assessment Unit at 602-364-3632 or 1-866-222-2329.
 - Health care providers may contact the Vaccines for Children program at 602-364-3642.